

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

MEMORANDUM

TO: Warren Herzig, Supervising Sanitary Engineer
Bureau of Water Management, DEP

FROM: *BWD* Robert Scully, Supervising Sanitary Engineer
Environmental Engineering Program, DPH

DATE: October 8, 2004

RE: **Central Septic System VS. Community Sewerage System Clarification**

This program is requesting clarification as to whether certain common sewage disposal systems constitute community sewerage systems as defined in CGS Section 7-245. The definition indicates that a community system is a sewerage system serving two or more residences in separate structures. Most common sewage systems serving separate residential structure are easily recognized as community systems. A sewage disposal system serving two or more residential structures in a multi-family development such as an apartment or condominium complex is clearly a community sewerage system. A common subsurface sewage disposal system that serves two or more single-family homes on separate lots would also constitute a community sewerage system.

This program routinely grants exceptions to allow central subsurface sewage disposal systems in accordance with Public Health Code Section 19-13-B103d (a)(2)(A). Central systems typically serve two or more non-residential buildings, or a single family home and a separate incidental/ancillary-use building such as a pool house, workshop or guesthouse. The designation of a common system serving the primary structure, the single family home, and an ancillary residential structure as a central system rather than a community sewerage system has been based on a long standing practice between our two programs. In such instances, the incidental residential structure typically was an in-law apartment or guesthouse. Historically, this program would only authorize the central system if the structures were on one property and not owned by separate entities. The secondary residential structure also represented a limited use compared to the primary single family home.

Recently this program has received several requests for central system authorizations for a single family home and a somewhat more substantial secondary residential structure. One such request has been received (See attached information) from the Madison Health Department to allow a central system to serve a 4 bedroom residential home and an "accessory" 2-bedroom apartment. This program is requesting clarification as to whether this type of common sewerage system constitutes a community sewerage system. The purpose of this clarification is to better define the limits of the distinction between central and community systems.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

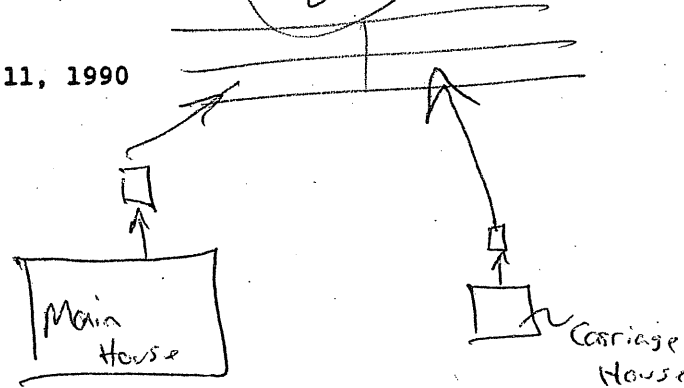


CASTELLAZZO

Central
L.S.

December 11, 1990

Mr. Jeffrey Lee
Kratzert, Jones & Associates, Inc.
Lafayette Square - Unit 3
1755 Meriden-Waterbury Road
P.O. Box 337
Milldale, CT 06467-0337



Dear Mr. Lee:

I am writing this letter to summarize some of our discussions concerning the development of a single lot located off of Wiese Road, Cheshire. The proposal consists of constructing a subsurface sewage disposal system to serve the main house and a carriage house. The question comes up as to whether this system can be construed as a "community sewerage system". If such a determination is made, a 22a-430 permit would have to be obtained from DEP.

I have reviewed the plans and the proposal and would recommend that you work with the local and state health departments to obtain the necessary approvals and permits. This proposal should be considered under Section 19-13-13103d (a) (2) (A). This recommendation is based upon the fact that the carriage house is an accessory building located on the same lot. Furthermore the property can not be subdivided and one owner will be responsible for the operation and maintenance.

Should you have any questions please contact me at 566-2154.

Very truly yours,

Warren Herzig

Warren Herzig
Supervising Sanitary Engineer
Bureau of Water Management
Engineering and Enforcement Division

pdb

cc Art Castellazzo, DOHS ✓